

**USA Dance Governing Council Meeting  
December 18, 2014  
Conference Call**

**Voting Members Present:**

Yang Chen, President;  
Shawn Fisher, Senior Vice-President, joined the meeting at 8:37 PM Central;  
Michael Brocks, Treasurer;  
Ken Richards, DanceSport V-P;  
Roger Greenawalt, DanceSport Delegate;  
Scott Coates, DanceSport Delegate;  
Linda Succi, Director of K-12 Programs, joined the meeting at 8:44 PM Central;  
Hannah Cole, Director of College Network;  
Jim DiCecca, Director of Membership;  
Marta Pascale, Director of Chapter Liaison  
Angela Prince, Director of Public Relations;  
Greg Warner, Secretary.

**Voting Members Absent:**

Jean Krupa, Social Dance V-P;  
Inna Brayer, DanceSport Delegate;  
Ann Durocher, Director of Development  
Taras Savitskyy, DanceSport Delegate;

**Non-Voting Attendees Present:**

Lydia Scardina, Past National President

**Call to Order**

8:10 PM Central  
Quorum Present

Minutes

- The GC meeting minutes of December 19 were reviewed and approved as submitted.

**Motion: Jim**

**Second: Michael**

**Approved: Unanimously with Ken Abstaining**

GC Meetings 2015

- Yang mentioned that with many issues requiring GC attention, we will schedule quarterly GC meetings.
- Greg will initiate a process to identify acceptable dates.

2015 Budget

- At the beginning of the 2015 budget discussion, Greg mentioned that Angela has a conflict of interest as a result of her arrangement with USA Dance for American Dancer.
- Since American Dancer is a budget item, Angela should be allowed to participate in the discussion but is not allowed to vote.
- Yang explained that a budget for 2015 must be approved prior to January 1, 2015.
- He shared that year-to-date, USA Dance is experiencing a deficit and 2014 will result in a loss as did 2013.
- Revenues are not keeping pace with expenses with two major activities this year, Nationals and the National Chapter Conference each experiencing losses.
- USA Dance must have dollars to support operations, compliance, auditing, registering in states, etc.
- Volunteers have attempted to meet these challenges but are unable to maintain these requirements and expectations.

- Yang emphasized the need to create an administrative infrastructure for establishing and maintaining credibility.
- He also noted that some things are not being accomplished in a timely and correct manner.
- It important the USA Dance expand its revenue base.
- He shared two budget versions:
  - 6a projects a \$30,000 net gain with a dues increase
  - 6b projects a \$77,000 deficit without a dues increase
- Several options were discussed such as volunteers paying ½ of travel associated with USA Dance.
- Ken raised several issues with the proposed budgets including:
  - objecting to an increases of athletes' dues
  - considering asking GC members, official observers and DanceSport Council members to support USA Dance through paying 50% of USA Dance related travel expense with personal funds
  - not being involved with the budget discussions to provide feedback for potential cuts
  - concerns that sufficient time was not provided to thoroughly review the proposed documents
  - objecting to reductions in athlete support
- Angela mentioned the Cision contract that has not been renewed.
  - This renewal has a price tag of \$3400.
  - Yang mentioned that renewing this was within her allotted budget for Director of PR.
  - He also mentioned this agreement must be with USA Dance since it has not been in the past.
- It was decided to continue to work on the budget and reconvene on December 28 to re-consider the 2015 USA Dance budget.
- If there is to be a dues increase, Marta stressed the importance of alerting chapters to this eventuality.
- It was also discussed that a new approach to providing chapters the support necessary and in some circumstances, required to support these activities such as expanded audits, registering in states and fees for BMI and ASCAP.
- No decisions were made regarding these issues at this time.

#### 2014 Audit Considerations

- Michael explained as he has been reviewing potential auditors, it is necessary to include chapter audits to some extent since all chapters and National is under the one 501(c)(3) umbrella.
- It is also necessary to register in each state that USA Dance is conducting business that essentially includes all 50 states.
- It may also be necessary to re-audit 2013.

#### Reimbursements for Nationals Policy

- The draft policy for reimbursing expenses associated with GC members and past presidents attending the National DanceSport Championships was discussed.
- Several issues were discussed such as GC members who attend as competing athletes and the number of hours volunteering necessary before individuals are reimbursed.
- Rog and Ken will re-draft the policy and present at the December 28 GC meeting.

#### Social Membership Renewals

- Jim reviewed the current policy for social dance membership renewals that state if the member renews and the date is within 90 days of the expiration date, the membership anniversary date of the original membership date is retained.
- This creates significant administrative time.
- Jim proposed a change in policy that states the renewal anniversary date will be calculated from the date the membership is renewed.

**Moved: Greg**

**Second: Shawn**

**Motion Approved with the following members voting NO:**

**Ken, Rog, Angela, Scott**

Providing Membership Data to District Directors

- Jim also proposed that membership data be made available to District Directors for the chapters within their Districts.

**Moved: Shawn**

**Second: Michael**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM Central.